

II. Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for simplifying control of a group of computer programs within a group of cooperating communication managers which access computer system resources held in computer system memory, the method including the steps of:

providing connection services to each computer program within the group of computer programs to enable access to a shared access memory that is accessible to each of the group of cooperating communication managers;

providing a set of command target qualifiers specifically identifying at least one of the group of cooperating communication managers to which a command should be targeted, wherein the set of command target qualifiers includes ~~including~~ at least one command target qualifier indicating that a command should be targeted ~~applied~~ to all members of the group of cooperating communication managers ~~a group of computer programs~~; and

providing a set of scope definitions for association with respective computer system resources to determine the scope of access and change rights for the computer system resources and for determining whether the computer system resources should be stored in said shared access memory, and for identifying computer system resources to which a command is to be applied by reference to their associated scope definitions.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein respective ones of said scope definitions are associated with respective computer system resources in response to setting of a scope parameter during a computer system resource creation operation.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said set of scope definitions include a shared scope option for association with respective computer system resources, said shared scope definition determining that the respective computer system resources should be stored in said shared access memory and should be accessible to all cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~ in said group.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, including the step of saving a computer system resource to said shared access memory in response to specifying a shared scope during creation of the computer system resource.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said set of scope definitions include a group scope option for association with respective computer system resources, said group scope definition determining that the respective computer system resources should be stored in said shared access memory and that copies of said respective computer system resources should be created and stored in local storage of each cooperating communication manager ~~computer program~~ in said group of cooperating communication managers.

6. (Currently Amended) A command interface for a computer program for issuing commands for administration of the computer program and other computer programs which have been defined as a group of computer programs within a group of cooperating communication managers, the command interface providing a set of commands having the following parameters:

a command target qualifier, wherein particular parameter values of the command target qualifier determine which communication managers of the group of cooperating communication

managers to which ~~computer programs of the group~~ the command should be targeted ~~applied to~~;
and

a scope definition, wherein particular parameter values of the scope definition are associatable with respective computer system resources and wherein a parameter value of the scope definition determines which of the respective computer system resources the command should be applied to by reference to their associated command target qualifier parameter values.

7. (Currently Amended) A command interface according to claim 6 wherein the set of commands includes a define command for defining a new computer system resource, wherein a scope definition parameter value specified in said define command is associated with said computer system resource in response to issuing the command and wherein the scope definition parameter value determines the scope of access and change rights for the computer system resource and determines whether the computer system resource should be stored in a shared access memory which is accessible by all cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~ in said group or should be stored in unshared local memory of an said individual cooperating communication manager ~~computer program~~ indicated by said command target qualifier.

8. (Currently Amended) A command interface according to claim 6, wherein said command target qualifier has at least a first specifiable parameter value indicating that a command should be applied to all members of the group of cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~ and a second specifiable parameter value indicating that a command should be targeted ~~applied to an individual cooperating communication manager~~ ~~computer program~~ of the group of cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A data processing system including:

at least one computer program defined as a member of a group of computer programs
within a group of cooperating communication managers;

a command interface for issuing commands for administration of the at least one
computer program and other members of the group of computer programs, wherein the command
interface provides a set of commands having the following parameters:

a command target qualifier, wherein particular parameter values of the command target
qualifier determine which cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~ of the
group to which the command should be targeted ~~applied to~~; and

a scope definition, wherein particular parameter values of the scope definition are
associatable with respective computer system resources and wherein a scope definition
parameter value specified in a command determines which of the respective computer system
resources the command should be applied to by reference to the computer system resources'
associated command target qualifier parameter values.

10. (Currently Amended) A data processing system according to claim 9 including:

means for accessing a first memory from one of the group of cooperating communication
managers ~~said one computer program~~, which first memory is inaccessible from other members of
the group of cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~; and

means for accessing a second memory from said one of the group of cooperating
communication managers ~~computer program~~, which second memory is accessible from all
members of the group of cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~;

wherein the set of commands includes a define command for defining a new computer system resource, wherein a scope definition parameter value specified in said define command is associated with said computer system resource in response to issuing the command and wherein the scope definition parameter value determines the scope of access and change rights for the computer system resource including determining whether the computer system resource should be stored in said second memory which is accessible by all cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~ of said group or should be stored in unshared memory of an the individual cooperating communication manager ~~computer program~~ indicated by said command target qualifier.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising computer readable program code recorded on a computer readable recording medium, the program code including a command interface for issuing commands for administration of the computer program code, and other computer programs which have been defined as a group of computer programs within a group of cooperating communication managers, the command interface providing a set of commands having the following parameters:

a command target qualifier, wherein particular parameter values of the command target qualifier determine which cooperating communication managers ~~computer programs~~ of the group to which the command should be targeted ~~applied to~~; and

a scope definition, wherein particular parameter values of the scope definition are associatable with respective computer system resources and wherein a parameter value of the scope definition determines which of the respective computer system resources the command should be applied to by reference to their associated command target qualifier parameter values.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a group of computer programs within a group of cooperating communication manager which access computer system resources held in computer system memory, the method including the steps of:

in response to a command being issued which specifies an operation and a command target qualifier, determining which cooperating communication managers computer programs within said group to which the command should be targeted ~~the operation is to be performed on;~~

in response to the command specifying a scope definition, determining which computer system resources of the determined computer programs the operation is to be performed on; and performing the operation on the determined resources of the determined computer programs.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, including the steps of:

in response to a define command being issued which specifies a define operation for defining a computer system resource and which specifies a command target qualifier, determining which cooperating communication managers computer programs within said group to which the define operation should be targeted ~~is to be performed on;~~ and

in response to the define command specifying a scope definition, performing the define operation and associating the specified scope definition with the computer system resource, thereby to determine the scope of access and change rights for the computer system resources and to determine whether the computer system resources should be stored in shared access that is accessible to each of the group of cooperating communication managers or in unshared memory, and storing said computer system resource in said determined memory.